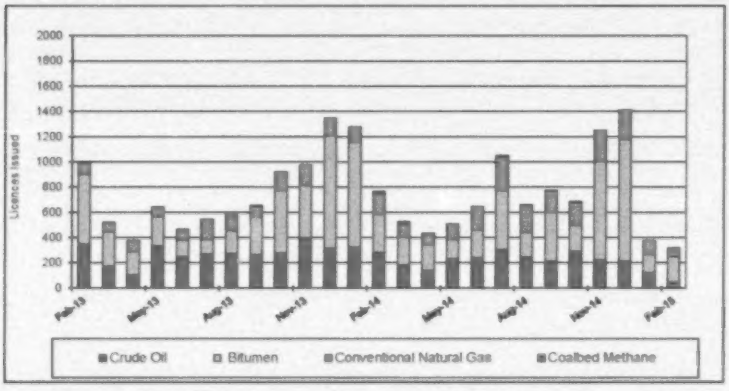
April 2015 Industry Activity Report

Monthly Well Licences



The Alberta Energy Regulator issued 321 well licenses in February, down 58% from the 767 issued in February 2014.

There were 48 licences issued for crude oil in February, down 83% from the 283 crude oil licences issued in February 2014.

92% of the crude oil licences issued in February were for horizontal wells, up 11% for this time last year.

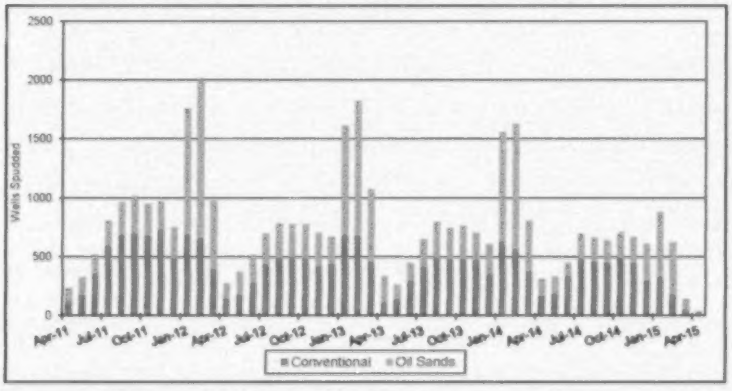
There were 70 natural gas well licenses (excluding CBM) issued in February, 60% lower than the 176 licences reported last February.

79% of natural gas well licenses issued in February were for horizontal wells, down 4% from the same period last year.

	February		
Licenced Wells	Drilling Type	Total Licences	Per cent of Total Licences
Natural Gas	Horizontal	55	17%
	Vertical/Direct	15	
Coal Bed Methane	Horizontal	-	
	Vertical/Direct	-	
Crude Oil	Horizontal	44	15%
	Vertical/Direct	4	
Bitumen	Horizontal	36	68%
	Vertical/Direct	133	
	Evaluation	34	
Total		321	100%

Source: Alberta Energy Regulator

Alberta Wells Spudded (estimates)



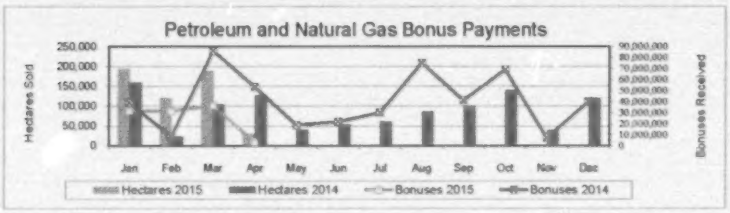
With a total of 39 spuds, activity has dropped 88% from last April when there were 318 spuds.

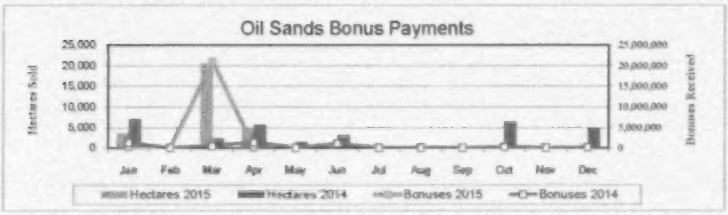
So far this year, spuds for conventional wells are down 66% while oil sands spuds are down 57%.

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2011	Conventional	761	714	534	121	181	357	587	690	704	679	733	485	6,546
	Oil Sands	1051	1289	784	120	153	168	225	277	315	276	241	272	5,171
2012	Conventional	686	665	392	144	181	278	438	491	502	485	423	441	5,126
	Oil Sands	1078	1357	588	132	194	241	266	294	282	297	284	230	5,243
2013	Conventional	687	684	452	112	138	299	417	485	482	479	470	350	5,055
	Oil Sands	929	1142	627	227	132	153	237	316	265	286	236	266	4,816
2014	Conventional	625	567	377	171	188	333	485	459	453	490	447	305	4,900
	Oil Sands	936	1065	433	147	147	125	213	209	192	226	228	308	4,229
2015	Conventional	334	179	53	26									592
	Oil Sands	550	451	91	13									1,105

Source: Alberta Energy Regulator

Petroleum & Natural Gas & Oil Sands Land Sales





The petroleum and natural gas land sales held in April totalled $3 million with an average price per hectare of $96.51. Oil sands land sales earned $13 thousand with an average price per hectare of $2.55.

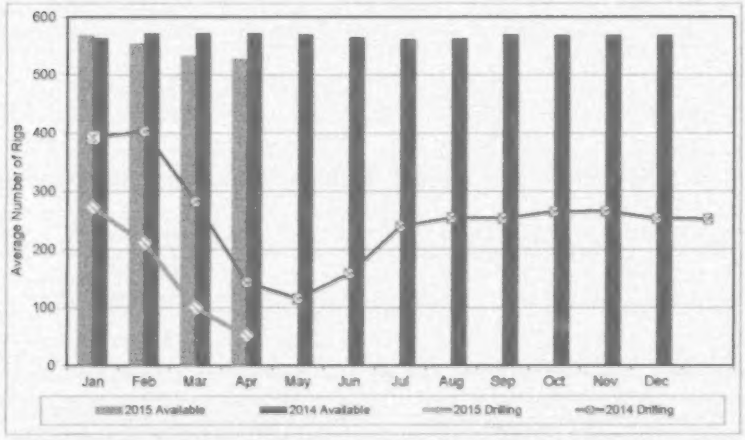
Through the first four months of this year, Alberta has earned $124.5 million for 565,952 hectares, compared to $189.9 million last year (430,407 hectares). Average crown land prices have decreased from $441.10/hectare in 2014 to $220.02 in 2015.

Petroleum and Natural Gas Rights	Apr-15	Apr-14	YTD 2015	YTD 2014
Bonuses	$3,012,676.42	$53,209,460.51	$103,256,040.91	$186,718,771.00
Hectares	31216.00	128043.92	536640.11	415239.32
Average Price per Hectare (Cdn$)	$96.51	$415.56	$192.41	$449.67

Oil Sands Rights	Apr-15	Apr-14	YTD 2015	YTD 2014
Bonuses	$13,056.00	$1,313,940.48	$21,264,156.16	$3,134,223.36
Hectares	5120.00	5632.00	29312.00	15168.00
Average Price per Hectare (Cdn$)	$2.55	$233.30	$725.44	$206.63

Source: Alberta Energy

Alberta Rig Activity


Average Number of Rigs
Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
2015 Available
2014 Available
2015 Drilling
2014 Drilling

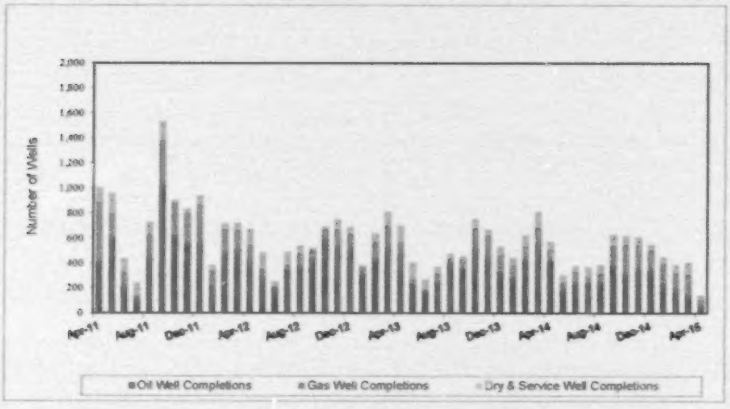
For the month of April, fleet utilization for the province's 528 rigs averaged 10%, compared to 25% of the 571 rigs available last April.

So far this year, Alberta oil and gas fields have employed an average of 158 rigs, compared to 305 working rigs for this period in 2014.

April	Drilling	Down	Available	Rig Util. Apr-15	Rig Util. Apr-14
Alberta	51	476	528	10%	25%
Saskatchewan	5	125	130	3%	4%
British Columbia	25	57	82	30%	54%
Northwest Territories					
Manitoba		16	16		
Canada	81	677	758	11%	24%

Source: Canadian Association of Oilwell Drilling Contractors

Alberta Well Completions



There were 141 wells completed in April, down 75% from the 574 wells completed in April 2014.

Compared to last year's four-month total, oil completions are down 61%, and gas completions are up 7%.

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2011	Oil Wells	226	353	650	419	602	209	105	451	1030	626	559	568	5,798
	Gas Wells	145	294	974	472	196	124	43	183	356	259	243	299	3,588
	Dry & Service	42	127	222	112	160	100	97	94	145	19	32	73	1,223
2012	Oil Wells	215	489	516	405	296	205	348	380	447	588	533	523	4,945
	Gas Wells	131	181	146	141	62	12	46	98	65	81	137	110	1,210
	Dry & Service	35	48	55	126	128	37	94	63	12	23	80	59	760
2013	Oil Wells	313	449	544	481	230	179	263	394	357	528	463	333	4,534
	Gas Wells	59	124	149	91	47	14	59	46	72	153	164	139	1,117
	Dry & Service	9	67	119	129	66	79	51	34	29	72	44	58	757
2014	Oil Wells	280	427	520	418	188	240	245	257	389	314	354	348	3,980
	Gas Wells	105	119	166	94	54	94	52	63	154	239	197	161	1,498
	Dry & Service	57	80	126	62	63	45	70	69	85	65	62	42	826
2015	Oil Wells	239	194	147	57									637
	Gas Wells	166	134	166	52									518
	Dry & Service	46	60	94	32									232

Source: JuneWarren-Nickle's Energy Group